[25th October 1956

Sea erosion in Beypore

* 344 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) the extent of damage caused to property by sea erosions at Beypore in Malabar district in the months of May and June 1956 ;

(*b*) the preventive measures taken by the Government to stop such erosions; and

(*c*) the relief given by the Government to the homeless victims and the other people affected by the erosions?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) About 65 coconut trees standing on Government poramboke and unsurveyed foreshore lands were washed away. One house was pulled down by its occupants when the sea was advancing.

(*b*) No preventive measures are possible unless crores of rupees are spent on dumping huge concrete blocks year after year and when they are well settled, a sea dyke to break the waves can be put up. This is considered not worthwhile.

(*c*) Grant is generally given from the State funds for the reconstruction of houses which are pulled down on account of the advance of the sea.

Houses for the P.W.D. garden workers, Government Estate, Mount Road, Madras

* 345 *Q.*—Sri K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Government have sanctioned Rs. 39,000 for constructing houses for the Public Works Department garden workers in the Govenment Estate, Mount Road, Madras; and

(*b*) if so, at what stage the work stands now?

The Hon. Sri R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) The estimate for the work is under revision and the work will be taken up after the estimate is technically sanctioned, tenders are called for and a contractor is settled. The work is expected to be completed within a period of nine months from the date of handing over of the site to the contractor. Special steps will be taken for executing the work as expeditiously as possible.

Sri K. P. GOPALAN : May I know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government have received any memorandum in this connexion and also regarding the grievances of the estate workers and, if received, what action the Government propose to take?